Charles L. Bidwell





Assistant General Counsel (Energy, Installations and Environment)

Mr. Charles L. Bidwell serves as the Assistant General Counsel (Energy, Installations and Environment) (EI&E) in the Department of the Navy (DON). In this capacity, he is the principal legal advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (EI&E) and addresses matters related to military construction, real estate, infrastructure, energy, public-private-venture housing, climate, resilience, environmental planning, environmental compliance, and safety and occupational health, among others. Mr. Bidwell served as the DON Assistant General Counsel (Financial Management and Comptroller) from June 2017 to December 2021, and as the Counsel, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, from July 2013 to June 2017. He was appointed to the Senior Executive Service as Deputy Counsel, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), in September 2010.

Mr. Bidwell began his legal career in September 1991, as an associate at the law firm of McKenna & Cuneo, in Washington, D.C., practicing government contract law and litigation. In February 1995, he joined the DON Office of the General Counsel as a program attorney at the Naval Air Systems Command. In October 2001, he transferred to the Department of Defense Office of General Counsel as an Associate General Counsel (Acquisition & Logistics), responsible for advising the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) and staff regarding major weapon systems programs and other acquisition matters. Mr. Bidwell returned to the DON Office of the General Counsel in April 2006, as the Assistant to the Deputy General Counsel. In July 2007, he joined the NAVSEA Office of Counsel as the Head of the Systems Section. Mr. Bidwell was selected as the Deputy Assistant General Counsel (Research, Development and Acquisition) in January 2010.

Mr. Bidwell graduated from Yale University with a bachelor of arts degree in history in 1986, and from the New York University School of Law with a juris doctor degree in 1991. He received the Office of the Secretary of Defense Exceptional Civilian Service Award in 2006, the DON Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 2009, and DON Superior Civilian Service Awards in 2020 and 2021. Mr. Bidwell is a member of the State Bar of California and the District of Columbia Bar.